

Lamarckiana and some of its mutants from Professor de Vries are included. Another feature of interest is the reproduction of an original paper by John Goss, published in 1822, in which he describes experiments with peas which are now seen to give a simple Mendelian result. There is a useful chapter on methods of culture and cross-breeding of peas. The book is attractive in *format* and reasonable in price.

R. H. COMPTON.

Grotjahn, DR. ALFRED. *Soziale Pathologie.* Berlin, 1912. August Hirschwald; pp. 702; M. 18.

THE "Social Pathology" is, in the author's own words, an attempt to systematise our knowledge of the relationship between human disease and social conditions, so as to form a basis for a science of Social Medicine and Social Hygiene. We may say at once that the book, coming as it does from a pioneer of the movement, is as remarkable for the wideness of its survey of facts as for the lucidity and thoroughness in the handling of the involved social questions.

We have an exhaustive account of most of the pathological conditions as effecting our modern civilisation, their frequency, etiology, clinical types, etc. Illuminative statistics are given abundantly, which are the more valuable for the hygienist and social reformer, as they are in most cases newly brought together. In each case the reciprocal effect between disease and the social factors is studied. On the one hand, it is shown how disease is affected by the social *milieu*; on the other, the effects of disease are traced in their ever-extending influence upon human conditions and human kind.

It is especially in the latter problem that the eugenicist is interested. Dr. Grotjahn produces figures and facts to substantiate his conclusions, which is more than can generally be said of the average eugenicist. It is this which makes his proposals so valuable, which are, as far they go, all in favour of eugenic measures; though, to do him justice, we must mention that he condemns that class of eugenicist who would look upon eugenic methods as the sole and only panacea for all social ills. For him eugenics ("generative hygiene," he calls it) can only form a part—and that perhaps a minor part—of a general scheme of social hygiene.

It is a sheer impossibility to give within the limit of a short review an insight into the extent and scope of Dr. Grotjahn's work, which is, indeed, an eminent achievement. His book forms a mine of instruction for all would-be reformers, the more so as a lengthy bibliography is added to each chapter.

As to special issues, we can only mention a few. We have already pointed out that Dr. Grotjahn speaks of the necessity of eugenic endeavours with no uncertain voice. Indeed, his proposals are at once thorough and free from cant. He advocates permanent detention of hereditarily tainted stocks, such as the insane, chronic alcoholics, etc. He insists—mark the point—on the necessity of a systematic campaign against venereal contamination of the people, not only by complete isolation of all gonorrhœal and syphilitic cases, but by unabashed scientific instruction of the young of both sexes in matters of sexual hygiene and pathology. Not less emphatic is his plea for preventive measures during marital life, wherever conditions exist which make propagation of the parental type undesirable. He would include an excessive and exhausting rate of child-birth, so common with the poor, among the indications for such prophylaxis. As to other measures, the raising of the moral conscience with regard to the value of human life, the establishment of a state-endowment of motherhood or of family insurance, are accessory means capable of realisation in the near future.

An English edition is in course of preparation.

S. HERBERT.